

Arizona News Release

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Press Release Announcement – October 20, 2006 - For Immediate Release

Arizona Cattle on Feed Inventory Up 6 Percent from Last Year

On October 1, 2006, Arizona had 336,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 6 percent from a year ago but unchanged from last month. Placements totaled 28,000 head during September, 1,000 head less than a year ago. During September, 26,000 head were marketed, up 2,000 head from last year.

On October 1, 2006, California had 525,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, down 2 percent from last year but up 5,000 head from last month. Placements totaled 72,000 head during September, up 4,000 head from last year. During September, 64,000 head were marketed, up 7,000 head from last year.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.4 million head on October 1, 2006. The inventory was 9 percent above October 1, 2005 and 8 percent above October 1, 2004. This is the highest October 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.20 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.12 million head, up 16 percent from 2005.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.23 million, 5 percent below 2005 and 6 percent below 2004. Net placements were 2.16 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 725,000, 600-699 pounds were 412,000, 700-799 pounds were 450,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 645,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.77 million, 3 percent below 2005 and 2 percent below 2004. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 68,000 during September, 19 percent above 2005 and 11 percent above 2004.

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